

TO: George H. Robinson
Executive Secretary

FROM: Roy E. Morris
Industrial Relations Secretary

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
Report for month of October, 1947

Educational Relations included: (1) Efforts with employers and government officials, namely, with various officers of Westinghouse Meter Div., R.C.A., Automatic Mfg. Co., Congoleum-Nairn, Conmar Products, Erlich Construction Corp., and the Veterans Hospital (Lyons).

(2) With employees and Union Officials, including officers of the State C.I.O. Council; Plumbers Union, Local 23, A.F.L.; and the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, C.I.O. District Council; and

(3) An investigation of conditions affecting Negro workers with the Erlich Construction Corporation.

Community Relations involved cooperation secured from the State office and 24 local offices of the N.J. State Employment Service, on the Household Employment Program; completion of plans of the Steering Committee for a Household Employment Luncheon, securing a committee, representing the community as represented by the Essex County Intergroup Council, to confer at Hearns on the hiring of Negroes as sales clerks; interpretation of the effect on Negro workers of the high cost of living, for a Congressional Hearing in Trenton; work with the Industrial Council of Urban Leagues and Similar Agencies on the Survey of the white collar field; additional work with C.I.O. State Council to get locals active in plants we named, toward the use of Negroes as white collar workers; advisory help to a Youth Council in its organization drive which realized a gross of \$450; additional work with the Labor Committee to Combat Intolerance on film short assignments to union locals; and the organization of a new group, the Council for Fair Employment in Smaller Retail Stores, which is already conducting a survey of conditions of employment in third ward retail stores in preparation for attempts to get Negroes hired as sales clerks in the Springfield Avenue retail stores.

Employment: There were only thirty-six referrals during October. This is, by far, the smallest number of referrals made from this office in the last 3 1/2 years. Two reasons are (1) the suspension of day-work activity, and (2) the decidedly increasing difficulty in placing Negroes.

Counseling: Nineteen counselling interviews were given to ten persons. Immediate economic problems ranged from selection of a field of study for one individual to another's efforts to open a nursery school as a business-professional venture.

One young boy required use of psychiatric treatment techniques in aiding him to make good his chance for continued parole. After two years in federal prison for minor theft, he had been paroled for two weeks, his making good depending on whether he secured a job and keeps at it satisfactorily. In cooperation with his family and Parole Officer, we brought about some improvement in his own attitude, secured a job for him, and got the cooperation of his sister in-so-far as his recreation is concerned.

Facts and Statistics: Two surveys are being worked on: (1) of the white collar field (generally) in New Jersey, and (2) on the comparative extent of employment of Negroes in third ward retail establishments.

Newspaper publicity was secured for the Household Employment Program and the Luncheon.

Reports on current Labor trends and the status of Negro workers were given, (1) on request, to the National Board of the Y.W.C.A.'s, (2) at the Household Employment Luncheon; and (3) to the State C.I.O. Council.

Two public addresses were given, both in Newark, to a total audience of about 350 people.

Seventeen meetings were participated in, that had to do with some facet of the department's work.